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of policy for not doing this, and what is the main ground on which they rest.

SIMEON E. BALDWIN.

*Cases in Quasi Contract.* By Edward S. Thurston. Published by the West Publishing Co., St. Paul, Minn. 1916. pp. xvi, 622.

This is the most recent volume in the American Case Book Series, under the general editorship of William R. Vance. There is little doubt that it is the best case book on the subject of Quasi Contracts now available. The logical analysis very largely follows that of earlier case books; but such rearrangement as has been attempted seems to be distinctly an improvement. In the amount of space devoted to each topic, this work is better balanced than any of its predecessors; while at the same time, the amount of material is better suited to the time now available in the law schools.

The work appears to be somewhat lacking in material for determining the part played by Equity in Quasi Contract. Surely the legal relation known as Quasi Contract does not depend upon the corner in Westminster Hall in which the court was sitting when such a relation was recognized. There might well have been devoted to this a small amount of space in the section on the sources and scope of the subject. One need not despair of establishing a quasi-contractual relation, even though no one of the common-law forms of action was available. It may still be convenient pedagogically to teach Equity as a separate subject; but it must no longer be totally excluded from consideration in teaching any branch of law. This book does, indeed, contain examples of quasi contracts that originated in equity and in admiralty; and a teacher may dwell upon the matter as he sees fit.

The cases are well selected. There are 256 in all, 188 of these being American. Thirty-one are chosen from New York, 28 from Massachusetts, while from 1 to 11 each are taken from 33 other States. There are enough early English cases to give historical perspective. About one-half of the cases have appeared in one or more of the previous case books on the subject, thus confirming the present author's judgment. The proportion of new cases, and the citations in the notes, are sufficient to show industry and original research. It is no recommendation of a

case book that it omits examples on the ground that they have already been used. Of the new cases, 43 were decided since 1900.

The author very wisely restricts his work to cases of non-contractual debts. It may be doubted whether, in our law, any other sort of obligation deserves to be classified among quasi contracts. He rightly indicates no doubt that a debt is non-contractual, even though a tort or a breach of an express contract may have been one of the causative facts.

ARTHUR L. CORBIN.

*A Treatise on Federal Criminal Law Procedure with Forms of Indictment and Writ of Error and the Federal Penal Code.*

By William H. Atwell. Second Edition. Published by T. H. Flood & Company, Chicago. 1916. pp. 808.

Mr. Atwell was for several years United States District Attorney for the Northern District of Texas. No better preparation could be had for the making of a compendium of federal criminal law and procedure. A work of this kind is necessarily more of a digest than a treatise and it offers small opportunity for treatment along original lines—indeed Mr. Atwell makes no special claim for originality in his preface. Nevertheless his pages are replete with suggestions which are plainly the result of the personal observations of a broadly-experienced and resourceful practitioner. This is especially true of the chapter on “Practical Suggestions.” The author has shown great discrimination in selecting his indictment forms. An appendix contains a reference to all laws of a general nature, permanent in character, in force December 1, 1909, having penal provisions not properly severable from the administrative provisions, not contained in the criminal code, but embraced in the general revision of the Laws of the United States.

JOHN WURTS.

*Connecticut Compensation Decisions, Volume I.* Published by the State of Connecticut. pp. 732.

In 1913 there was passed in Connecticut a Workmen's Compensation Act which became effective January 1, 1914. The passage of this Act marked an epoch in the history of Connecticut. Legally, it was the most important change since the adoption of the Practice Act in 1879. Socially, it was the beginning of a new